(d) whether cotton stocks of private parties were also destroyed by fire during the said period; anj

(e) if so, what are their details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN); (a) The Cotton Corporation of India does not operate in Mah'arashtra under the cotton monopoly procurement scheme. Hov-ever, the Corporation brings bales to Bombay from up country branches for export purposes anj there is no fire claim in respect of such bales.

;So far as the cotton under the control of Cotton monopoly Procurement Ssheme is concerned, the information is as under:

1.41,871 quintals and 9,673 bales of cotton have been destroyed in fire till 30-4-1986 in 165 five incidents in Man rashtra.

(b) Out of 165 fire incidents 124 incident, occured in Ginning and Pressing unif.s due to friction in machines. Tire other fire incidents occured due to snort circuitsfelectrical sparking etc. The loss on account of above fires is about R·*. 7. TO crores.

(c) All stocks of cotton were insinvJ and 165 claims have been lodged with the Insurance Companies.

(d) 'In Maharashtra no private pai M&w to trade ;n cotton business.

(e) Does not arise.

Quota of Peacock tail feathers

1164. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that represen tations were made to Government to allo cate quota of peacock tail feathers to the extent of 90 per cent of annual ceiling to established exporters and balance 10 per cent to new-comers;

(b) if so, whether any final decision has been taken by Government In the matter; and

(c) what is the reason for announcing the same old policy tor 1986-87 for allo cating only 40 per cent of ceiling to established exporters and what are the reasons for rejecting the plea for 90 pet cent quota to established exporters who fetch maximum foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) to (c) Representations have been received for higher allocation of quota of peacock tail feathers to established exporters. I:ie export ceiling of this item is decided on the basis of 'recommendations, of the Department of Forests and Wildlife. The proposal for enhancing t'ne export ceiling forl986-87 is under consideration of that Department Pending final recommendation of the Department of Forests and Wildlife, last years' qu'ata has been repeated to different categories of exporters.

Income-Tax relief on leave encashment Salary to Bank Employees

1165. SHRI SYED AHMAD HASHMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state-.

(a) whether according to Circular No. 431, printed under letter P. No. 174|43|82-IT(AI), dated 12th September. 1985 income-tax relief is granted on the-profit accruing to an employee due to leave encashment salary;

(b) if so. the .details thereof;

(c) whether employees of natioalised banks in Bhiwani (Haryana) are being given this relief by the Income Tax Office in the District; If so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what steps Government are taking to direct the Income Tax Office, Bhiwani (Haryana) to provide relief in income tax to bank employees in ihe District?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI); (a) and (b) Circular No. 431 dated l^Une- September, 1985 clarifies that relief trader ••cction 89(1) of the Income-tax Act, 1961

is admissible in respect of amOuntj received on encashment of leave salary while in service. This relief is granted by ihe Income-tax Officer on an application made to him in thi$_s$ behalf.

(c) No such case has come to the notic$_e$ of the Income-tax Officer, Bhni-wani.

Foreign tourists

1166. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of tourists from each country who visited India during the last two years, year-wise; and

(b) what steps are being taken to boost tourism i$_n$ the country?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT); (a) The information is given in the annexure, *[See* Appendix CXXAVIII Annexure No. 31].

(b) The steps initiated to increase the inflow of foreign tourists to India include reorientation of publicity campaigns giving emphasis on consumer advertising stepping up of public relations with overseas media agencies, lour operators -md travel agents abroad, participation in international travel fairs and exhibitions, development of infrastructural facilities and improvement of transport systems including increasing airlines capacity an$_i$i permitting tourist charters.

Letters received from Members of. . Parliament in the Central Board of Direct Taxes

1167. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what i$_s$ the number of letters received from Members of parliamentlVIPs, which are still pending in the Central Board of Direct Taxes (i) upto 3 months; (ii) 3—6 months; (Hi) 6—12 months; nn<l (iv) more than one year old, with brief subjects, stage of each letter; I

(b) by whe$_n$ these letters are lik. be disposed off?

THE MINIS MR OF SI M I IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI); (a) ai As on 1.4.1985 there were 38 VTP|MP references pending in th_' Central i of Direct Taxes. During 1.4.19,85 to 15.4.86, 595 references were iv Out of lhe.se 548 references were disj of in the corresponding period, thu> leaving pendency of such references to 8 on 16.4.1986. Out of ^{nem}- 77 letters pending upto 3 months. 5 letters '-'-ere pending between 3—6 months. 3 lelters were pending between 6—1- months and no letter was pending for more thar 3ns year.

These letters pertained to different subjects concerning Direct Tax Laws tnd their implementation. In view of the plexities involved in each such case, it is difficult to lay any target date for tacit disposal. However, high priority i$_s$ attached to the disposal of such letters.

100 per cent export oriented gold jewel sry manufacturing complex

1168. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it *i%* a fact that the si for 100 per cent export oriented jewellery manufacturing complex has failed to take off and that not a unit has come up any where ;$_n$ the o try;

(b) if so, when the scheme for up 100 per cent export oriented jewellery manufacturing complexes first mooted and appro-

(c) what are the major reasons f< non-implementation of the scheme;

<\1) what steps are contemplated Government in the matl

THE MINISTER OF COMME1 AND FOOD CIVIL SUPPLIES (S P. SHIV SHANKER); (a) to fd) The scheme for setting up special export 0 n ted complexes for manufature of |